

# TOPICS IN PEDAGOGY & LITERATURE

MUAP 3250 004 | SPRING 2025

## Undergraduate Course Syllabus

**The saxophone is actually a translation of the human voice, in my conception. All you can do is play melody. No matter how complicated it gets, it's still a melody.**

**-Stan Getz**

### Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide music majors with information in three areas of the saxophone field: history, literature, and pedagogy. Students will follow a course of study that will aide them in their performance and teaching. The history portion of the course will cover the history and development of the saxophone including instruments, genres, and implementation, and each of these will be viewed in terms of world and music history. The literature portion will contain extensive listening and score study of some of the most important pieces that involve the saxophone. Teaching practices and materials will be discussed in the pedagogy portion of the course.

*This syllabus was created to provide you with an overview of the learning expectations for this course. You can find additional details about class assignments and course policies on the Canvas Course Syllabus page.*

**Spring 2025**

**Time TBD**

**FAC 2214**

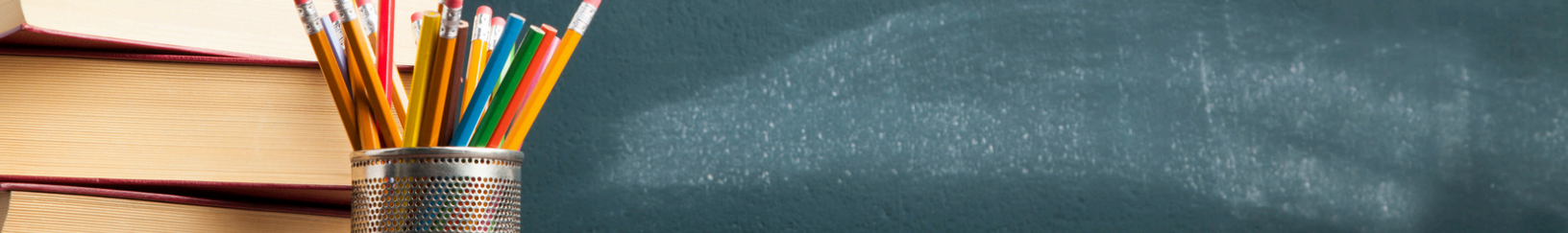
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### **DR. SARAH ROBERTS**

My office is in the Cowan Fine Arts Center room 2216. You can reach me at [sroberts@uttyler.edu](mailto:sroberts@uttyler.edu) or 903.566.7387.

In person and virtual appointments can be scheduled. Please email or call for an appointment. My door is always open, so please do not hesitate to contact me!



# Course Learning Objectives

## Course Description

Classroom instruction for music performance majors with emphasis in saxophone. Other class participants will be admitted on a case-by-case basis.

## Student Learning Outcomes

*Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:*

1. *Demonstrate through written or verbal communication a knowledge of the history and development of the saxophone.*
2. *Demonstrate through written or verbal communication a knowledge of significant performers and ensembles that have shaped the history of the saxophone.*
3. *Demonstrate through aural and visual identification a knowledge of many of the most important pieces that involve saxophone in the genres listed below:*
  - a. *Orchestral*
  - b. *Concerto*
  - c. *Chamber music*
  - d. *Solo Saxophone*
  - e. *Saxophone ensemble*
4. *Demonstrate through written or verbal communication a knowledge of standard pedagogical practices.*
5. *Choose graded materials and literature that will account for a systematic growth in the musical and technical development of applied saxophone student.*

## Required Course Materials

- Method of note taking during class (can be paper or electronic)
- A method of storing reading assignments (can be paper or electronic)
- Other materials as assigned

## Teaching Methods and Assignments to Achieve Learning Outcomes

- Each weekly class meeting will incorporate lecture and activities pertaining to the specific topic. Students will be asked to participate in class discussion during the in-person meetings.
- In preparation for classes, students will be assigned reading and research.
- The course will also consist of regular assignments, 3 exams, and a final project.

## Supplementary Materials

Additional instructional materials are provided for you on the course canvas page. In addition, it will be the student's responsibility to acquire applicable materials utilizing UT Tyler Muntz Library.

# Course Content

## History

Course Introduction/Historical Overview  
Adolphe Sax - Instrument origins and development  
19th Century and Influential Soloists  
Century and Repertoire  
Concert Saxophone and Saxophone Quartet Development

## Repertoire

Orchestral Saxophone: History, development, literature  
Saxophone Repertoire (solo/chamber)  
Saxophone Repertoire (solo/chamber)  
Method books, etude books, pedagogical resources

## Pedagogy

Anatomy and vibration, sound production and playing fundamentals  
Articulation, intonation, vibrato, voicing  
Pedagogy of Saxophonists

## Business

Resumé Building  
Effective Communication & Marketing  
Management & Finances

# AI Statement

During some class assignments, we may leverage AI tools to support your learning, allow you to explore how AI tools can be used, and/or better understand their benefits and limitations. Learning how to use AI is an emerging skill, and we will work through the limitations of these evolving systems together. However, AI will be limited to assignments where AI is a critical component of the learning activity. I will always indicate when and where the use of AI tools for this course is appropriate.

Weekly Assignments will be assigned on canvas throughout the duration of the course.

# Academic Calendar

January 13, 2025 Classes Start  
January 20, 2025 No School  
January 24, 2025 Census Date  
March 17-21, 2025 Spring Break  
March 31, 2025 Last Day to Withdrawl  
April 28 - May 2, 2025 Final Exams



## Attendance/Class Participation

- A. Quality and Consistency of preparation
- B. Consistency in progress
- C. Organization and use of course materials
- E. Attitude
- F. Completion of weekly assignments

% of total Grade

**20%**

## Assignments

- A. Completion of assignments on time
- B. Comprehension of the material

% of total Grade

**25%**

## Exams

Three exams given at the completion of each unit.

% of total Grade

**35%**

## Research Project/Presentation

% of total Grade

**20%**



## Grading Scale

- A 90%-100%
- B 80%-89%
- C 70%-79%
- D 60%-69%
- F Less than 60%

# INFORMATION

## Assignment Submissions

This course will require a healthy dose of reading and researching. Completing these reading assignments weekly is essential to your participation in discussions during class. It is recommended that your copy and print or start a digital file that you can access and can notate to comprehend each of the articles. There is too much reading to be completed the night before! Keeping on top of these assignments will go a long way towards you having a successful semester in this class.

## Make-Up Assignments

You will be given the opportunity to make-up missed quizzes, exams, and assignments for excused absences only. Excused absences include documented emergencies (e.g. doctor's note, subpoena) or school-related activity. Vacations, regularly scheduled doctor's appointments, and work schedules do not qualify as exceptional reasons and will not be accepted as an excused absence.

## Participation

Participating in the discussions that occur in each class will be a large part of our grade this semester. With such a small class size, participation from everyone is necessary to sustain meaningful discussion. Each week of lecture and discussion will be worth 30 points. Each student's participation will be recorded weekly.

## Attendance

Attendance is essential for a success in this course. Every professional -- from musicians to athletes to business executives -- needs to make sure they do one thing: show up! If you don't show up, you can't play. Or get paid. Students are allowed one week absence. After that, each absence will lower the course grade. After one absence the grade will start to move down for example from an A-plus to an A. Once the student reaches six absences, they fail the course. Any extraordinary circumstances, school-sponsored trips, or illnesses should be brought up to the instructor.

**It always seems  
*impossible* until it's  
done.      - Nelson Mandela**

## Technology Policy

*In order to ensure that you can participate in all of the activities within the course, you will need access to a smart device (phone, tablet, and/or computer). If you do not have a smart device available to bring to class, please email me and we can arrange for a rental device for class purposes.*

*Please also check out a USB microphone from the music office to assist in recorded assignments.*

# RESOURCES

UT Tyler Honor Code Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. Students Rights and Responsibilities To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, [view the student resources here](#) and [view the university policies and information here](#).

## Academic Advising Center

University Center (UC) 440  
903.565.5718  
advising@uttyler.edu

## Student Health & Wellness

University Health Clinic (UHC) 147  
903.565.5728  
wellness@uttyler.edu

## Bookstore

University Center (UC)  
903.566.7070  
bookstore@uttyler.edu

## Campus Activities

University Center (UC) 3400  
903.565.5796  
getconnected@uttyler.edu

## UT Tyler Police Department

University Service Center (USC) 125  
903.566.7300  
police@uttyler.edu

## University Counseling Center

University Center (UC) 3170  
903.565.5746 (for appointments)

## Campus Computing & Technology Support

Ratcliff Building North (RBN) 3022  
903.565.5555  
itsupport@uttyler.edu

## Writing Center

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) 202  
903.565.5995  
writingcenter@uttyler.edu

## Muntz Library

Robert R. Muntz Library (LIB)  
903.566.7342  
library@uttyler.edu

## One Stop Service Center

Stewart Hall (STE) 230  
903.566.7180  
enroll@uttyler.edu or cashiers@uttyler.edu  
One Stop Service Center includes:

- Cashier's Office
- Enrollment Services
- Financial Aid
- Student Business Services

## Military & Veterans Success Center

University Center (UC) 3440  
903.565.5972  
mvsc@uttyler.edu

## Student Accessibility Office

University Center (UC) 3150  
903.565.7079  
saroffice@uttyler.edu

**Crisis Help Line**  
**Available 24/7**  
**903.566.7254**

